

SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

July 31st, 2016

“...we are HIS workmanship,
created in CHRIST JESUS
unto good works, which
GOD hath before ordained
that we should walk in them.”

EPHESIANS 2:10

JOSEPH D. MURPHY, PASTOR

WEBSITE

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July 31st, 2016

Schedule of Services

Sunday School 10:00 am

Sunday Worship 11:00 am

Wednesday Worship 7:00 pm

Nursery

Nursery available for 4 years old and younger

Happy Birthday!

**Corben Chance - July 31st, Georgia Harrison - July 31st,
Angela Church - August 3rd**

Beloved, we are not saved by *going* to a 'holy' place. We are not saved by *knowing* a 'theological' position. But oh beloved, by GOD's underserved grace, we *are* saved by *believing* a Person, the GREAT I AM, our GOD, the LORD JESUS CHRIST!

(JOHN 4:1-26, ISAIAH 43:25)

ALL IS IN CHRIST

"ALL FULLNESS" (COLOSSIANS 1:18; 2:3; 3:11)

"All Fullness." Blessed be GOD for those two words. Our hearts rejoice to think that there is such a thing in the universe as "*all fulness*". In our mortal things there is no fulness but rather utter nothingness. "*Vanity of vanities, all is vanity*". We find that we are empty and we bless the LORD forever that HE has provided a fulness for us. "*In me, that is in my flesh, there dwelleth no good thing*". In us there is a lack of all merit, an absence of all power to obtain any, and even an absence of will to desire to do so. In these respects human nature is a desert, empty, and void and waste, inhabited only by sin and sorrow. These words, "*all fulness*" sound like a song even as when the angel declared "*Behold, I bring you glad tidings of great joy*". There is joy in these words to every soul conscious of its sad estate, and humbled before God. "*All fulness*".

"In HIM." Where else could all fulness have been placed? Who else could hold all fulness? Where is there a being big enough and perfect

enough to contain all fulness? We might as well ask, *"Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?"* To HIM only could it belong to contain all fulness, for He must be equal with GOD, the Infinite one. How suitable was the SON OF GOD to become the storehouse of all the treasures of wisdom, and knowledge, and grace, and salvation? The Redeemer is JESUS CHRIST, the same yesterday, today, and forever; therefore it was good that all fulness should be placed *"in HIM"*. *"Being made perfect He became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him"*. *"His name shall endure forever; His name shall be continued as long as the sun: and men shall be blessed in Him: all nations shall call Him blessed"*. Let me say that while fulness is treasured up in CHRIST, I do not say that it is NOT treasured up in the DOCTRINES of CHRIST although His teaching is wonderful.

"It pleased the FATHER". That is answer enough. HE is SOVEREIGN, let HIM do as HE wills. Ask the reason for election, you shall receive no other answer than this *"Even so, Father: for so it seemed good in thy sight."* Eli, when told his sons must die said, *"It is the Lord, let Him do what seemeth Him good"*. Once it pleased the FATHER to bruise him, and now *"...it pleased the Father that in Him should all fulness dwell"*. Now, if it pleased the FATHER to place all grace in CHRIST, let us praise the elect SAVIOR. What pleases GOD pleases us. Where would you desire to have grace placed but in the Well Beloved? If I could save myself I would not; I would think salvation to be no salvation if it did not glorify the LORD JESUS CHRIST. This is the very crown and glory of being saved that will bring honor to CHRIST. Who could bear to see our LORD robbed of HIS glory and reward? No joy ever visits my soul like that of knowing that the LORD JSUS is highly exalted, and that to HIM *"Every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father"*. Ought not you who are lost hasten to be reconciled to GOD by such a REDEEMER? If it pleases the FATHER to put all grace in CHRIST why does it not please you to come and receive it through CHRIST. CHRIST is the meeting place for a sinner and his GOD. GOD is in CHRIST, when you come to CHRIST, GOD meets you, and peace is made between you and the MOST HIGH. Are you willing to come to CHRIST? Then God has made you willing and you must now meet HIM at the savior's feet. *"It pleased the Father"*. It pleased the Father to give us all mercies in Him.

DWELL CONSTANTLY...

"...ALL POWER IS GIVEN UNTO ME IN HEAVEN AND IN EARTH..." (MATTHEW 28:18)

Dwell constantly on the fact that CHRIST is LORD. Because He is LORD, all power in heaven and earth is HIS; therefore He is Master of every situation, sufficient for every emergency, able to supply every need. When a Christian trembles in the presence of his enemies, it is because he doubts or has lost sight of the faithfulness and power of CHRIST.

[Beloved look to CHRIST. —Pr.]

PASTOR **ARTHUR PINK**

THREE BLESSED FACTS

Friend, if you or I should ever come before the LORD on *that day*, trusting in something that we did or didn't do as the basis of our acceptance before HIM, HE will justly send us to the Lake of Fire. Salvation is not some collaboration between GOD and man, but it is entirely of the LORD. This is set forth very plainly in GOD's word by three blessed facts:

1st, Salvation has one author.

"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." (HEBREWS 12:2)

2nd, Salvation has one workman.

"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." (EPHESIANS 2:10)

3rd, Salvation has one righteousness.

"I will go in the strength of the Lord God: I will make mention of thy righteousness, even of thine only." (PSALM 71:16)

Beloved, we know that believing on CHRIST, HIS blessed *person* and His finished saving *work* is the power of GOD, and the wisdom of GOD, through the faith of the operation of GOD. What blessed assurance, not merely believing *IN* Christ but, beloved, believing *ON* the LORD JESUS CHRIST. (1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-24)

Friend, Irrespective of what some liar may have told you, your salvation *does not depend on you*. Not in the least! Your salvation depends entirely upon *what He will do with you*.

PASTOR